

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053438

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: JA, TSPA

SUBJECT: PROVISION OF GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT INSERTION

1. NASA STAFF HAS NEGOTIATED LAUNCH CONTRACT PROJECT SIRIO WITH ITALIANS. THIS CONTRACT PROVIDES FOR THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN OPERATING FACILITIES TO THE ITALIANS FOR USE DURING THE INSERTION OF THE SATELLITE INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT. FOLLOWING AIDE MEMOIRE WAS FURNISHED TO JAPANESE SCICOUNS UCHIDA ON MARCH TO EXPLAIN SITUATION:

2. BEGIN AIDE MEMOIRE "1. NASA OCT 4, 1974 LETTER TO JAPANESE SCIENTIFIC COUNSELOR UCHIDA: THIS LETTER STATES

THAT UPON SEPARATION (OF THE SPACECRAFT FROM THE LAUNCH VEHICLE AT INSERTION INTO TRANSFER ORBIT) THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL SUBSEQUENT MISSION OPERATIONS IS LODGED TOTALLY WITH THE REQUESTING AGENCY OR ITS CONTRACTORS. THIS RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDES ALL NECESSARY ANALYSES AND SUBSEQUENT PLANNING FOR, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF, FACILITIES AND SYSTEMS REQUIRED FOR THE USUAL FUNCTIONS SUCH AS TRAJECTORY DETERMINATION, REAL TIME MISSION CONTROL, AND ASSOCIATED TRACKING AND DATA ACQUISITION SUPPORT.

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NASA HAS NEVER PROVIDED SUCH SERVICES FOR ANY NON-US GOVERNMENT SPACECRAFT LAUNCHED ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS AND DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE DOING SO IN THE FUTURE.

2. OTHER REQUESTS: SINCE ADOPTION OF THIS POLICY IN EARLY 1974, NASA HAS TAKEN THE SAME POSTURE WITH RESPECT TO OTHER DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SATELLITES LAUNCHED ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS. SPECIFICALLY:

A) THE GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION OF THE FRANCO-GERMAN SYMPHONIE SATELLITE LAUNCHED BY NASA IN DECEMBER 1974 WAS CONDUCTED FROM THE GERMAN SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (GSOC) IN GERMANY. THE NEXT SYMPHONIE LAUNCH LATER THIS YEAR WILL ALSO BE INSERTED INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT BY THE GERMAN CENTER.

B) ESRO'S GEOS SATELLITE WILL BE INJECTED INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT IN 1976 FROM EUROPE. ESRO WILL DO THE SAME FOR ALL ITS GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITES TO BE LAUNCHED BY NASA ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS.

IN ADDITION, GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION SERVICES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY (U.S.) INDUSTRY FOR THE INTELSAT AND CANADIAN ANIK SATELLITES LAUNCHED BY NASA ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS.

3. SIRIO: IN 1974, THE ITALIAN NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (CNR) DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE SIRIO LAUNCHING, WHICH HAD BEEN DORMANT, AND APPROACHED NASA TO RENEW LAUNCHING SERVICES NEGOTIATIONS. NASA THEN INFORMED CNR THAT IT COULD NOT TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR INJECTING THE SPACECRAFT INTO GEOSTATIONARY POSITION. HOWEVER, IN LATE OCTOBER 1974, CNR REQUESTED THAT NASA PROVIDE CERTAIN GEOSTATIONARY SUPPORT SERVICES, POINTING OUT THAT DURING A PREVIOUS SET OF MEETINGS BEGINNING IN 1970, NASA REPRESENTATIVES HAD COMMITTED TO PROVIDE FOR GEOSTATIONARY LAUNCH SERVICES BEYOND THE 1974 POLICY. THIS COMMITMENT HAD BEEN FORMALIZED IN A LAUNCHING SERVICES CONTRACT PRESENTED BY NASA TO CNR IN 1971 FOR SIGNATURE. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS COMMITMENT PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 1974 POLICY, NASA AGREED IN LATE DECEMBER 1974 TO HONOR ITS PREVIOUS COMMITMENT AND PROVIDE MINIMAL GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SIRIO ONLY. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT IT IS IN ONLY ONE PARTICULAR THAT THESE SERVICES GO SIGNIFICANTLY BEYOND THOSE MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHER REQUESTERS, NAMELY THE PROVISION ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS OF CERTAIN OPERATING FACILITIES AT THE GODDARD

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TION OF THIS COMMITMENT PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE 1974 POLICY, NASA AGREED IN LATE DECEMBER 1974 TO HONOR ITS PREVIOUS COMMITMENT AND PROVIDE MINIMAL GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SIRIO ONLY. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT IT IS IN ONLY ONE PARTICULAR THAT THESE SERVICES GO SIGNIFICANTLY BEYOND THOSE MADE AVAILABLE TO OTHER REQUESTERS, NAMELY THE PROVISION ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS OF CERTAIN OPERATING FACILITIES AT THE GODDARD

SPACE FLIGHT CENTER; THE SIRIO SPACECRAFT PROJECT TEAM  
(MADE UP OF CNR AND ITS CONTRACTORS) MAY USE THESE

FACILITIES IN CONNECTION WITH GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION FOR  
A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 45 DAYS. THE REMAINING SERVICES  
TO BE PROVIDED FOR SIRIO ARE ESSENTIALLY THOSE AVAILABLE  
TO JAPAN AND OTHER REIMBURSABLE LAUNCH REQUESTERS, AS OUT-  
LINED IN NASA'S (MR. TAYLOR) LETTER TO NASDA (MR.  
MURAMATSU) OF AUGUST 7, 1974. WHILE PROVIDING THIS  
SUPPORT, NASA WILL ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE OPERATION OF THE SIRIO SPACECRAFT BEFORE OR  
AFTER THE SEPARATIONS OF THE SPACECRAFT FOR THE LAUNCH  
VEHICLE.

4. SUMMARY: BECAUSE OF A COMMITMENT NEGOTIATED SEVERAL  
YEARS BEFORE THE ADOPTION OF THE PRESENT POLICY, NASA  
AGREED, IN DECEMBER 1974, TO MAKE AVAILABLE, ON A REIM-  
BURSABLE BASIS AND FOR THAT CASE ONLY, THE USE OF CERTAIN  
NASA OPERATING FACILITIES FOR GEOSTATIONARY INJECTION  
SUPPORT. IN ALL OTHER REIMBURSABLE NON-US GOVERNMENT  
CASES (GEOS, SYMPHONIE A AND B, INTELSAT, ANIK, ETC.), IN-  
JECTION INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT HAS BEEN AND WILL CON-  
TINUE TO BE CONDUCTED FROM FACILITIES OTHER THAN NASA'S.  
AS WITH ALL OTHER LAUNCHINGS OF THIS TYPE, RESPONSIBILITY  
FOR THE SIRIO SPACECRAFT REMAINS WITH THE SPONSORING  
AGENCY."

3. UCHIDA WAS BRIEFED BY SCI/SA ON REASONING BEHIND DECI-  
SION TO FURNISH SERVICES TO ITALIANS BUT NOT TO JAPANESE.  
THE COMMITMENT TO ITALY WAS MADE IN FORMAL CONTRACT PRE-  
SENTED TO CNR IN 1971 AND SINCE THEN ITALIAN PROGRAM  
PLANNING HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED ON THAT BASIS. UCHIDA WAS  
INFORMED THAT OCTOBER 4 LETTER FROM NASA AND NOVEMBER 15  
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LETTER FROM GRANGER (PREVIOUSLY POUCHED) REPRESENTS USG  
POSITION. UCHIDA EXPECTS FURTHER JAPANESE EFFORTS TO  
OBTAIN SERVICES FROM NASA ON ITALIAN PRECEDENT.

4. FYI: COPY OF ANNEX TO ITALIAN CONTRACT HAS BEEN  
PROVIDED TO UCHIDA AND IS ALSO BEING POUCHED TO POST.  
ALSO AN UNDER SECRETARIES COMMITTEE STUDY HAS BEEN UNDER-  
WAY SINCE JANUARY TO DETERMINE WHAT SERVICES SHOULD BE  
PROVIDED TO ALL USERS. ANNEX TO ITALIAN CONTRACT SHOWS  
CONSIDERABLE CONCESSIONS TO CNR BUT DOES NOT ACCEPT  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPACECRAFT AT ANY TIME. IT WAS  
SUGGESTED TO UCHIDA THAT SINCE ITALIAN ANNEX IS DETAILED  
AND COMPLEX, IT SHOULD BE EVALUATED BY JAPANESE TECHNICAL  
PERSONNEL AND USED AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR DETAILED DIS-  
CUSSION DURING UPCOMING LAUNCH CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.

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